GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3069
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2007
NATIONAL SERVICE VOLUNTEERS SCHEME
Patil Shri Balasaheb Vikhe

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Service Volunteers (NSV) Scheme is being implemented by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the budgetary allocation provided for the scheme during the year 2007-08;

(d) the details of the amount spent till date during the current financial years scheme-wise and State- wise, specially in Maharashtra;

(e) whether any review of the scheme has been done to see whether it has been able to fulfil the objectives for which it was launched;

(f) if so, the details thereof; (g) if not, the reasons therefor; and (h) the number of Volunteers at present alongwith the work assigned to them during their deployment?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a)&(b) The scheme of National Service Volunteers (NSV) is being implemented through the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan and the National Service Scheme. The objective of the scheme is to provide opportunities to students, those who have completed their graduation to involve themselves, in nation-building activities on a voluntary basis for a specific period of time on a whole-time basis. Each volunteer enrolled under the scheme, is paid a stipend of Rs. 1000 per month.

(c) The budget provision for the scheme for the year 2007-08 is Rs. 15.00 Crores.

(d) The state-wise details of the amount spent till date including Maharashtra under the scheme of National Service Volunteers during the current financial year is at the Annex.

(e)to(g) Yes, Sir. The last evaluation of this scheme was done by the Centre for Media Studies in 1996. Inter-alia, the evaluation showed that the scheme enables volunteers to understand social issues and make them feel socially responsible. In view of the passage of more than a decade, Government is considering a further independent evaluation.

(h) At present, there are 5000 Volunteers with the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and 300 Volunteers with the National Service Scheme(NSS).

The volunteers attached with NYKS help the District Youth Coordinator in forming new youth clubs and in keeping the existing Youth Clubs/Mahila Mandals active, responsive and progressive. Further, they also assist Youth Clubs in preparing their annual action plan and also in applying for grants-in-aid under various schemes of the Government.

The volunteers attached with NSS are entrusted with the task of organizing awareness programmes related to different social issues in the campus as well as in the adopted village/community and helping the NSS unit in the organization of NSS Special Camp & Regular Activities.